

Immanuel's November 2009

Newsletter

Worship is sacred by Pastor Mark

What happens in the hour we gather together for worship is different than any other hour of the week. The rest of the week we fill our hours with many important things from work to rest, eating to bathing, recreation to entertainment. Each of those activities are good and necessary.

What happens in the hour of worship is not only good and necessary, it is of God and absolutely necessary. What happens in worship is not secular, but sacred. What happens in worship is holy and from God. Most of what happens during the rest of the week is focused on us. What happens in worship focuses on our saving God. Having that understanding shapes and forms what happens in worship.

For example:

1. Our music sung is sacred. The music focuses on what Christ has done, not on us.
2. Our words spoken are sacred. The words focus on Christ and His forgiveness, not on us.
3. Our actions are sacred. The sign of the cross, the sharing of the peace, the gathering at the Lord's table, the child at the font are all sacred actions that focus on Christ and not on us.

It is easy to understand why some would want the secular brought into the worship service. The secular we are far more at ease with. The secular is where we live the rest of the week. Likely, the rest of the week our music is different, our words are different, our actions are different than the sacred music, words and actions of the worship service. Our sinful natures are far more at home with the secular, with the things of this world.

As tempting as it might be to bring the secular into the sacred, we must resist that temptation. To do so would change our hour together in worship to just one more secular event we must attend during the week. As we keep the worship hour sacred, focused on Christ and His death and resurrection, it is then that God comes in His Word and Sacrament and gives to us His wonderful gifts of forgiveness and peace.

Some may wonder why, following God's lead, we encourage our families to every Sunday worship. It is because of the 168 hours each week, that one hour of worship is the one hour where the Gospel is certainly proclaimed, where faith is nurtured and grown, where God gives His gifts of forgiveness and strength. Our worship is sacred, indeed. See you in church! I am

Yours in Christ,

November Birthdays!

God's blessing to our members who celebrate birthdays in November!

*(If your birthday is listed incorrectly, or if your name has been omitted,
please contact the church office.)*

1 - Adelaide Dressel		21 - Olivia Strubberg
1 - Brita Gau		21 - Aaron Swann
1 - Sarah Peats	11 - Isabella Ameiss	22 - Lee Collin
1 - David Reifschneider	11 - Katie Peats	22 - Bailey Emmons
2 - Jennifer Buescher	11 - Dorothy Stumpe	22 - Karen Tutt
2 - Mollie Ferguson	13 - Emma Lock	23 - Kara Blakley
2 - Ann Loesing	13 - Ryan Maris	23 - Keith Moritz
2 - Janis Nafzger	13 - Alan Wunderlich	23 - Paulette Winship
3 - Betty Helsee	14 - Debbie Ciegel	23 - Alan E. Wunderlich
5 - Tom Haddox	14 - Steven Menke	24 - Bill Lohmeyer
5 - Diane Scheer	16 - John Borgmann	24 - Mahaliah Rott
6 - Kara Bell	16 - Derek Clark	25 - Don Means
6 - Christine Dunn	16 - Linda Davis	26 - Curt Beers
6 - John Vogel IV	16 - Mae Jean Diederich	26 - Christine Blocker
7 - Ian Cox	16 - Elizabeth Jones	26 - David Massmann
7 - Paul Lohmeyer	16 - Elaine Klemm	27 - Linda Byrd
8 - Lisa Brough	16 - Chance Redd	27 - Cindy Frick
8 - Nancy Carriker	17 - Nathan Blocker	27 - Phyllis Fuhr
8 - Kari Heather	18 - Arlene Marts	29 - Wayne Clements
8 - Sara Herbert	18 - Becky Roettering	29 - Andrew Dawson
8 - David Pruser	19 - Patrick Dunn	29 - Marcus Dawson
9 - Benjamin Brunjes	20 - Kim Dawson	29 - Wayne Moritz
9 - Daniel Brunjes	20 - Kadin Otto	29 - Kurt Nurnberger
9 - Amanda Reddick	20 - Rose Thompson	30 - Norma Means
10 - Jeff Blocker	21 - Rhonda Sherman	30 - Jamie Rice



SCHOOL NEWS

Apple Butter

Once again, the hard work associated with the apple butter cook is behind us. A huge thank you to all of the individuals who helped with this fundraiser. I'm impressed at how many people come out to support this event – but more excited at the number of people that say how much they enjoyed themselves as they visited with others throughout the event! We received a grant from Thrivent to supplement the apple butter cook. We anticipate having a profit of approximately \$6,000 which will go to support the teachers and have various student assemblies.

Movie Night

After a few years of dwindled leadership and participation in the PTL, we are happy to announce the official kick-off for this group! Our first event will be held on Friday, November 20th for a family movie night. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. for time of fellowship. Mr. Hopfensperger will share some of the goals of the newly formed PTL at 6:45 p.m. and the movie begins at 7:00 p.m. We will be showing Pixar's "Monsters Inc." Come out with your family to celebrate the kick-off of this parent group!

Veteran's Day Celebration

Students at ILS will recognize the service of all veterans on Wednesday, Nov. 11th. Our guests will be honored in a chapel service and have a reception afterwards. We invite all veterans to

contact the school office to let us know that you will attend the celebration.

Digital Newsletter

Our weekly school newsletter is now available digitally! Each family that has supplied the school with an email address has received an email with a link to our school website. At this site, families will find a copy of the weekly newsletters. As with the church newsletter, it is our hope that most families will prefer to receive a digital copy of the newsletter, saving us costs on paper, ink, and time.

Alumni Reunion

We just held our first Immanuel Lutheran School Alumni Reunion. This event was for ILS alumni and their families and was held in the school cafeteria. We are still seeking contact information so that more people are aware of the Alumni group that is starting up. Many thanks to Angi Grellner and Tammy Beers for heading up this effort.

2010 Dinner Auction

Save the date of Saturday, March 13th for the 2010 Dinner Auction. Be part of the excitement of coming up with a theme and sharing of new ideas. A planning meeting for the auction was held on Monday, October 19th, at 8:00 am and was repeated at 7:00 pm. All school parents and congregation members were encouraged to attend one of these meetings.

YOUTH NEWS

OVER 25 STUDENTS GOING TO NEW ORLEANS (With the same number of Jr. Youth, if not more, interested in their District Gathering in March)

We have had an awesome response to sign-ups for the National Youth Gathering for next summer. Over 25 students are planning to attend. We also expect a large number of Jr. Youth will be interested in going to their District Gathering in March on the weekend of the 19th - 21st. We now have the task of raising the necessary funds to make it a reality for all of them.

Three efforts this month will include the Bake Sale at the Sausage Supper, the sale of Butter Braids for Thanksgiving, and the Pancake and Sausage Dinner on November 20th. Donations for the Bake Sale are being solicited now, the Butter Braid sales will start at the Sausage supper, and we will need everyone's help with the Dinner on the 20th. Tickets will be sent out to all youth, and will be on sale through the office and on Sunday morning. Please watch the bulletin for updates and ways you can help in the process!

MAJOR CALENDAR CHANGES FOR NOVEMBER

- 1st - All youth encouraged to help with the Sausage Supper.
- 8th - ***ALL YOUTH MEET AT CHURCH AT 1 PM TO HELP RAKE LEAVES FOR OUR SR. MEMBERS.*** (Rain day is the 15th)
- 15th - NO 5th & 6th YOUTH - Please join us on the 8th for leaf raking. (Leaf raking rain day)
- 15th - 11th & 12th Graders Reflections Bible Study
- 20th - Sr. Youth Pancake & Sausage Dinner (Plan to arrive after school on Friday)
- 22nd - ***NO Jr. & Sr. Youth*** - Please plan to help us 2 days before at the dinner.
- 27th - ***ALL YOUTH INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN IMMANUEL'S ENTRY FOR THE PARADE OF LIGHTS*** (watch the bulletin for

updates)

BYOB - Sr. High's Bring Your Own Breakfast and **CHILLIN'** will continue as planned. **BYOB** will meet on Wednesday mornings 7:30 - 8:30 AM, on the 4th, the 11th and the 18th. **CHILLIN'** will meet on the 5th and 19th from 6:30 - 8:30 PM.

We will also be hosting Advent dinners on the first two Wednesdays in December.
Mark your Calendar!

5th and 6th YOUTH HAD A GREAT "MARTY PARTY"

Celebrating with activities focused on Martin Luther, the 5th and 6th youth had a wonderful time together with fun games, food and a study on the gift of Grace. Close to 20 students took part in last month's event. We look forward to their help with our leaf raking project on November 8th at 1 PM. (NOTE: DATE CHANGE FOR 5th & 6th YOUTH - please share with your non-member friends who have been joining us.)

JR. YOUTH NUMBERS CONTINUE TO GROW!

We are really pleased with our Jr. Youth numbers and feel blessed that many are bringing friends to our program. We consistently have been having 25 - 30 youth in attendance at each event. We could have 30+ interested in attending the District Gathering in March. The cost of that event will be \$125 and will cover 2 nights lodging, meals, transportation and the program. The event is entitled, 3 in 1, Trust in the Trinity and will be held on March 19th - 21st. We are excited to have Dr. Micah Parker as the presenter for the retreat. Parker has spent more than 20 years in Lutheran ministry as a coach, college professor, and school administrator. He additionally serves God as the founder of TrustGuy Ministries. We are in the process of raising money for this event and invite all youth to participate to help cut their cost and grow together. If you have any questions feel free to talk with Mr. Wunderlich.

REFLECIIONS - We have had a great study the last two months by our older Sr. High students on the book of Romans and how it applies to our lives. All Juniors and Seniors are invited to join us on Sunday, November 15th at 7 PM for our

continued study as we move into Chapter 3. Our study in December will be on Sunday night, December 20th.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

A new Sunday morning Bible study has started for the Sr. High students on 15 topics they have chosen. Each Sunday as they are in discussion, a similar discussion on the same topic is being covered by parents, led by Mr. Clements and/or Mr. Wunderlich. While the Sr. High youth are the only youth in this study, ALL youth parents (and other interested adults) are invited to be part of the parent forum during the Bible class hour. Sr. youth will continue to meet for their class in the Upper Room, while parents will meet in the 5th grade classroom. (Upper level, north end of the hall). Again, ALL youth parents are invited to take part.

THINGS TO WATCH FOR IN DECEMBER

We will again be sponsoring the 2 Advents dinners on the 1st & 2nd Wednesdays in December. Jr. Youth will be taking one, and Sr. Youth will be sponsoring the other. Watch the bulletin for further updates.

***PLEASE REMEMBER - IF YOU EVER HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PROGRAM, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ALAN WUNDERLICH
Office - 239-4705; Home - 239-9062; Cell - 221-1105***



Thanksgiving Celebration

Join us at Immanuel for a special service of thanksgiving to God for the wondrous blessings He bestows on His people!



Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m.
at church

Thursday, November 26th at the cemetery

Holy Communion will be celebrated in both services!

2009 Christmas Angel Tree

The week end of November 14th we plan to have our annual Christmas Angel Tree up in the narthex. All gifts need to be returned by Sunday December 6th.

Gifts will be given to children of our Seminary students in St. Louis. If the angel includes several suggestions, one item (or as many as you wish) can be given to that name. please do not feel obligated to buy everything listed. These angels have red ribbons and need to be wrapped please, as indicated on the angel.

Gold ribboned angels are for monetary gifts to be sent to "into the light" church in Bangkok, Thailand where Robin McCoy is our missionary.



All green ribboned angels are for distribution for local agencies and are not to be wrapped.

All gifts must have the angel attached and returned by Sunday December 6th.

Also please write your name and phone number by the corresponding number in the book set up by the tree. This is very important so we will know who to contact if the gift would be late in being returned.

May we all share our blessings with others again this Christmas.

Thank you for your support of this angel tree project.

—Board of Christian Care

Saturday and Sunday,
November 28,29 in all Services
Rev. Gerald Kovac preaching for
“Food for the Poor”

**A Note from Robin
McCoy:**

Dear Immanuel Family –
It is so hard to find the words
to express my thanks and my
love for all of you. Your
support, prayers, and love
(while I am home and while I

am in my Thailand home) are
incredible blessings. I take all
of you back to Thailand with
me in my heart. God’s great
blessings to each one of you.
In Christ our Lord –

Robin

(Birdie)

Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon

The Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at Ponderosa Steak House in Washington. The cost is \$10.00. Please notify Barb Hill (239-4256) if you plan to attend. If you are interested in joining Ladies Aid and would like to be our guest at the luncheon, please notify the above also.

Circuit Mission Team Costs Covered!

The Circuit Mission Team would like to thank all those who donated toward the construction and VBS costs of our mission trip to Guatemala. Our goal of \$5000 was met and exceeded, and construction activities are already underway in preparation for the team's arrival November 7. We thank God for your generous support of this effort and continue to ask for your prayers. You

will be able to get a daily update of the team's progress by checking a special blog set up for this purpose. Go to www.lmLutheran.org and click on the blog at the bottom of the menu on the left of the screen.

**December
Newsletter
articles are due
In the church office
by Friday, November
13th!**



Attention Senior Members Of Immanuel

The Youth Groups plan to be raking leaves on November 8th. If you need help, or are interested, in having your leaves raked, please contact the church office at 239-4705.



